

0421

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 9th Street,
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

SEP 03 1999

Dear Mr. Snow,

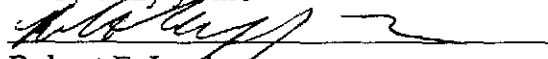
I am writing this letter to comment on the CALFED Bay-Delta Plan. The dam construction and enhancement, channelization of the Delta and the destruction of farmland in the Delta in effort to create a more waters for shipment to Southern California Cities and agriculture is a blatant violation of the present requirement, that the only water which may be shipped to the south is that in excess of the needs that presently it exist on the waterways.

\ It looks as Northern California agriculture and all persons live here should be fearful that this program is simply another effort to mislead, deceive, and cheat the citizens and industries of Northern California. By the further destruction of agricultural lands, and wildlife habitat, the plan severely damages the local farm economy, recreational fisheries and the enhancements of food fish populations for commercial fisheries.

Your agency's bias towards further dam construction and enhancement poses a grave peril to California wild fish including native salmon, trout and steelhead. This includes destruction of reds or nesting habitat for steelhead, trout and salmon, in sufficient water flows for the return of salmon and steelhead and the maintenance of proper water temperatures for development of juvenile fish. While we understand that human needs must be balanced against the needs of animals, there is no balance in destroying California rivers and streams for the benefit of agribusiness giants. Millions Californians who enjoy, and depend on, California's outdoors don't need more dams- they need better water conservation and management.

You need to value all impacts created by the changes, in including the destruction of habitat, damages to fish and wildlife populations, and inundation of farmland. We urge you to use the forces of the free market, by including all costs, to encourage the development of new efficiencies. This will save California's wilderness, boost conservation and benefit everyone in the long run. Please write me as to where you stand on these issues.

Very truly yours


Robert E. Laubengayer,
8376 Alaterna Court,
Orangevale, CA. 95662